US Army

Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree Program

United in the mission of serving soldiers

US Military Dietetic Interns Consortium

- Army Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree Program
  - 21 Months
  - Awarded a MS in Nutrition
  - Eligible to sit for the RD Exam
- Air Force Dietetic Internship Program
  - 9 Months
  - Eligible to sit for the RD Exam

The Future of Dietetics

- A MS degree is recommended for all entry level dietitians.
- Rationale:
  - Employers indicate entry-level RDs are not meeting their expectations.
  - The current track for RDs requires fewer years of academic and clinical education than do similar healthcare professions.
  - A graduate program provides the time/education needed to meet the expanded knowledge, skills, and competencies adopted by the dietetic profession in 1996.

Source: 2005 ADA Dietetics Education Task Force Report and

What is in it for You?

$40K Salary

30 days vacation

Medical and Dental Coverage

Funded Move

Advanced Education Opportunities

Paid Continuing Education

Guaranteed Job Placement

Benefits

(1 of 2)

- > $40,000 annual starting pay
- MS Degree (No tuition, no fees)
- 30 days vacation plus 10 holidays off per year
- Free medical and dental coverage
- Paid continuing education/conference attendance
- Opportunity for fully funded PhD Program
- Retirement after twenty years of qualifying service

Salary Estimate
(2005, based in San Antonio)

	Single	Married
2LT (< 2 years)		
▪Base Pay	$2,343	$2,343
▪Housing	$810	$984
▪Subsistence	$184	$184
▪Total Annual	$40,044	$42,132
CPT (4 yrs)		
▪Base Pay	$4,168	$4,168
▪Housing	$1,046	$1,239
▪Subsistence	$184	$184
▪Total Annual	$64,776	$67,092

Benefits
(2 of 2)

- Commission as an Officer
- A variety of job experiences
- Leadership and management positions with autonomy
- Funded moves
- 40 K future education benefits
- Free and low cost recreation and fitness facilities
- Travel opportunities world-wide

What Does An Army Dietitian

Inpatient

Outpatient

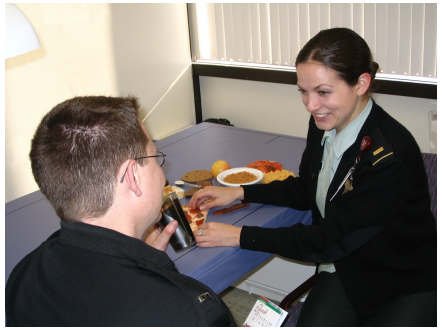
Research

Food Service

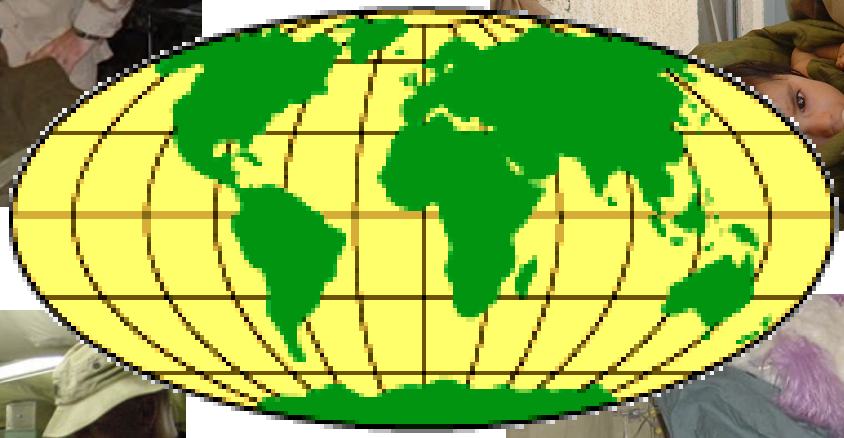
Positions of 135 Army

Position	# Dietitians
C, Nutrition Care Div	32
C, Clinical Dietetics	12
C, Production and Svc	8
Clinical Dietitian	15
Outpatient Dietitian	15
Health Promotion	3
Education	6
Command Positions	5

Position	# Dietitians
PhD Program	3
MS Program	10
Research	3
Interns	10
Deployed	4
Corps Leadership	5
Miscellaneous; Inspector General; AAFES; Quartermaster; West Point;	4



Serving the Country Around the World



Locations of Army

Location	# Dietitians
Hawaii	6
Tacoma, WA	4
Fairbanks, AK	1
Barstow, CA	1
Colorado Spgs, CO	4
El Paso, TX	4
Arizona	1
San Antonio, TX	20
Killeen, TX	5
Kansas	1
Ft Leonardwood, MO	3
Ft. Polk, LA	1
Lawton, OK	2
Augusta, GA	6
Savannah, GA	2

Location	# Dietitians
DC Area	19
West Point, NY	1
Watertown, NY	1
Carlisle, PA	1
Fayetteville, NC	5
Columbia, SC	2
Chicago, IL	1
Aberdeen, MD	1
Natick, MA	3
Kentucky	3
Overseas	
Heidelberg, Germany	2
Landstuhl, Germany	2
Wuerzburg, Germany	2
Seoul, South Korea	2
Iraq	4

Army Dietetic Internship/MS Program

- Phase I: 9 Months Didactics at Fort Sam Houston (San Antonio), TX

- Phase II: 11 Months Internship and Research at one of 4 Army Med

Phase II:
Army Medical Centers

Walter Reed

Madigan (2008)

Brooke

Womack

Phase I: Didactic Schedule

Pre-Program Training (Sep)	Quarter 1 (Dec)	Quarter 2 (Jan)	Quarter 3 (Apr)
Basic Officers Leadership Course (BOLC)	-Physiology -Biochem -Research Methods -Research Eval	-Vitamin Metabolism -Nutrition & Performanc e -Statistics -Force Protection -Protocol Developme	-Nutrition & Critical Care -Nutritional Supplement s -Nutrition Assessment Lab -Stability Operations

Phase II: Internship/Research Schedule

Quarter 4 (Sep)	Quarter 5 (Dec)	Quarter 6 (Mar)	Quarter 7 (Jun)
-Internship Rotations -Thesis Data Collection	-Internship Rotations 	-Internship Rotations -Thesis Data Analysis	-Internship Rotations -Thesis Defense

Food Service Rotation: 372 hours
Clinical Rotations: 436 hours
Community Rotations: 96 hours
Military Skills Rotation: 100 hours

Army Rank 101

- Structure of Army Personnel
  - Officers (Lieutenant, Captain, Major, Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel, General Officers)
  - Warrant Officers (Warrant Officer 1 through 5)
  - Enlisted (Private, Private First Class, Specialist, Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Sergeant First Class, Master Sergeant, Sergeant Major)

Each rank structure fulfills a specific role in the Army

- Officer training is focused on leadership development.
- Training is specific to that role.
  - Officers attend Basic Officers Leadership Course
  - Enlisted att

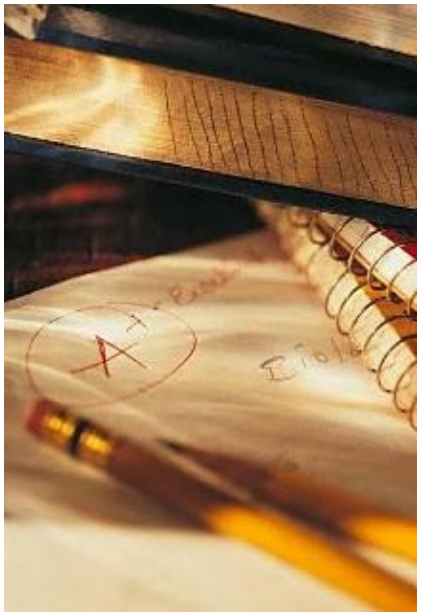
Basic Officers Leadership Course

12 Week course that all Army Medical Department Officers attend

- Location Fort Sam Houston (San Antonio), TX
- Live at home, duty 0630-1730, most nights and weekends free
- Trains new officers to be competent, confident, and adaptable leaders.
- Mainly classroom work, some field activities.

Qualifications

- BS; Proof of completion of Didactic Program in Dietetics
- U.S. citizen
- Be less than 33 years of age
- Pass a physical examination
- GPA of 3.0 or higher
- GRE minimum of 1000 (verbal and quantitative) and writing score of 3.5



Records are reviewed an evaluated base on:

- Undergraduate academic performance.
- Letters of recommendation.
- Demonstrated interest in military service.
- Leadership potential.
- Experience in foodservice and/or dietetics.
- GRE Scores

Obligations

- Serve a total of 72 months on Active Duty
  - 3 months at the Basic Officers Leadership Course
  - 9 months Phase I
  - 11 months Phase II
  - 4 years Active Duty as a practicing Army Dietitian
- 24 months additional months in the Reserves (inactive or active) or on Active Duty

*Success Rate

% of Army Internship Graduates who pass the test on the first attempt

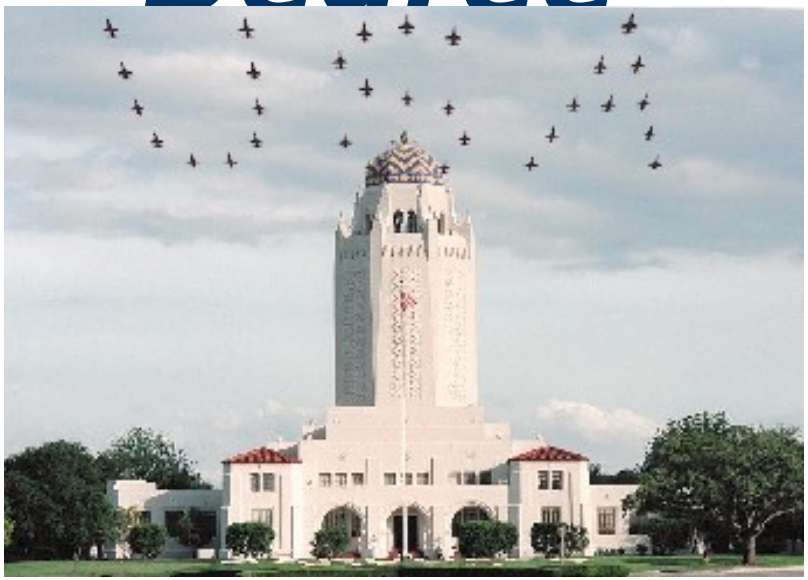
≥ 95%

* Based on the past 20 years

Application Steps (Timeline)

- Contact Recruiter in the Fall
- Application Due early Feb
- List Army Program for CADE computer match
- Selection boards meets in March
- Applicants notified via the CADE match in Apr
- Accept ASAP
- Get commissioned as a 2LT
- Move to San Antonio the end of August
- Complete BOLC; start the MS Program 1 Dec

Dietetic Internship/Masters Degree



QUESTIONS?